

U. S. Dist. Ct. Office
New York March 17th 1838

Sir I have this day received from the solicitor of the Treasury a copy of your letter to the Secretary of the Treasury Dated the 9th Inst. in which you state that you had received at the Mint this morning from Messrs Woodward and Hale of Brooklyn N.Y. a specimen of a "Counterfeit half Dollar."

I am directed by the Department to prosecute those connected with the commission of this felony, and before proceeding to do so, I will thank you to furnish me with any further information you may have received in respect to the fabrication of the coin in question.

Was you informed from whom Messrs Woodward & Hale received the specimen, when and where, and to whom suspicion was attached. I will thank you to be as particular as possible in the relation of all the circumstances of which you may have been possessed.

On the 9th Inst. I convicted at our Circuit Court one Gotlieb Vanghart a German Engraver by occupation, and a resident of Brooklyn N.Y. of uttering forged coin in the similitude of Spanish Milled Dollars; at the time of his arrest he cast from his person a leather sack containing twelve pieces of forged coin, one of which I enclose. Will you have the goodness to send me an analysis of it: it may assist me in bringing to punishment the perpetrators of similar offenses.

I am, Sir, very respectfully
Yours.

William H. Price

U.S. Dist. Ct.

To R. W. Patterson Esq
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia